ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1948

FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF SPILSBY

IN THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN - PARTS OF LINDSEY.

Dr. C.S. Wright, M.B., B.C., D.P.H.,
Council Offices,
Boston Road,
Spilsby.

24th August, 1949.

SPILSBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health's report for 1948

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Spilsby Rural District for the year ending December 31st, 1948.

I am pleased to be able to report once again that the general health of the people has been good.

The most important event in the year from a health point of view was the coming into force of the new National Health Act. This Act which has taken so many years to prepare affects the life of every individual in the country and in conjunction with the National Insurance Act provides a comprehensive Medical, Dental and Hospital as well as ancilliary services of all kinds for everyone from long before they are born until they are safely dead and buried. The Act though it does not completely satisfy the Medical profession does embody most of the essentials for which medical men have been striving so long and is certainly a big step forward in the health services of the country. Considering its magnitude and the extensiveness of its various parts, the Act, though it is having its teething troubles, has made a good start. All the Medical men practising in the District are co-operating in the working of the Act.

Owing to economic conditions and a world shortage of certain commodities the severe rationing to which we are all so accustomed had to be continued throughout the year; but the Government found it possible to take bread and potatoes off the list of rationed foodstuffs, which was certainly some relief. Medical men practising in the Spilsby District have found no evidence that the health or vitality is suffering as a result of the restriction of foodstuffs; but certainly some people, particularly old people living alone, are existing on a very meagre and dull diet, and the difficulty of obtaining a variety of food is an added strain on the overworked housewife.

Vital Statistics. The figures in this report are compiled from the monthly returns I receive from the local Registrars, they do not include figures relating to non-civilians.

Area. The area remains the same, namely 146,030 acres in 69 parishes.

Population. The population is estimated at 23,940.

Rateable Value. The rateable value is £91,465, and the value of a penny rate is £372.1.6d.

Houses. The number of inhabited houses is 7,348.

Births. The births (live) numbered 404, compared with 450 in 1947. Of the 404 infants born, 209 were male and 195 female. 17 of each sex were illegitimate. The total number of births represents a birthrate of 17 per thousand of the population - the rate for the whole of England and Wales was 17.9.

Deaths. The deaths numbered 268, compared with 278 the previous year. Of the 268 deaths 142 were male and 126 female. This figure represents a death rate of 11.2 per thousand compared with a rate of 10.8 for the whole country.

Infant Mortality. The infant mortality, that is the deaths in children under one year of age, was 12, giving a rate per thousand live births of 29.7. The similar rate for England and Wales was 34. Of the 12, two were of illegitimate babies.

Causes of Death. Among the 268 deaths, 40 were due to cancer, 98 to diseases of the heart and circulatory systems, 34 to intra-cranial lesions, 11 to tuberculosis, 11 to diseases of the kidneys, 8 to pneumonia and 8 to bronchitis. There were 2 deaths due to suicide, 3 to road accidents and 2 to other violent causes.

Still Births. There were 17 still births, 10 male and 7 female.

General provision of Health services.

Laboratory examinations are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Lincoln. This service (started as a war-time emergency service) is now very extensively used by medical men in the District and by this Health Department for the bacteriological analysis of water samples. Complete analyses of drinking water samples, when needed, are carried out by Messrs. W.W. Taylor of Nottingham.

All hospitals clinics and ambulances have been taken over under the National Health Act. The Spilsby Cottage Hospital and the Gables Public Institution are now one unit under one set of officers and in the Boston Board Group. Spilsby has lost the Ambulance which it has always had, and when required now an ambulance is obtained from the Service Station at Skegness, where there is a whole-time night and day service. This arrangement has on the whole worked well, but if an ambulance could be kept at Spilsby (which is the centre of the District) and serviced from Skegness, it would be quicker to get in some emergencies.

Under the Act there has been a rearrangement of hospitals for infectious diseases. Osgodby fever hospital, to which hitherto most of our infectious diseases have been sent, is now a children's convalescent home. Skegness Infectious Diseases Hospital is closed and classified as a reserve Infectious Disease Hospital. Infectious diseases if requiring hoppital treatment now go to Scarthoe or Boston.

Midwifery and Nursing services are practically unaltered under the Act. All the District Nurses are trained for andequipped with gas and air apparatus for midwifery work, and the benefits obtained are much appreciated. Owing to the difficulty of getting efficient help in the homes there is an increasing tendency for women to wish to go to hospital for their confinements, but owing to shortage of beds normal cases can only be admitted for first cases or if home conditions are so bad as to necessitate it.

Every year the proportion of old to the rest of the population is increasing, and this trend will continue. With this comes the increasing difficulty of their care and treatment when sick. Many of the aged live by themselves, and elderly people suffer nearly twice as much sickness as those of working age (the actual figure being in the ratio of 7 to 4), furthermore their illnesses often last so long that it is frequently difficult to get them adequate treatment. The number of hospital beds for the nursing of the aged sick is not nearly sufficient.

Scabies. Few cases of Scabies have been notified to me during the year. This disease which is fostered by dirty conditions, overcrowding and bad housing, is one which should be and in time will be completely got rid of.

Venereal Diseases. I have had no primary cases of these diseases reported to me during 1948. There is a clinic at Skegness for their treatment.

Diphtheria. Immunisation of children. The health department of the County Council took over this scheme in its entirety in July. All children can be immunised free of cost either at the clinics or by their own doctor. I would like again to impress upon all parents and teachers the importance of this protection for children against Diphtheria; since its inception the incidence of disease and the death roll from it have been reduced very greatly. If all children were protected diphtheria would cease to be a menace to society. During the year one case was notified and that in a child whose parents had not allowed their son to be Immunised. During the year the following number of children were immunised against Diphtheria in the Spilsby Rural District:-

Under 5 years of age	285.
5 to 14 years of age	22.
Boosters (i.e. those who have had a reinforcing dose)	5.

Tuberculosis. There were 23 fresh cases notified during 1948, and of these 2 were of the non-pulmonary type. This figure is about the average for recent years. There were 11 deaths from this disease.

Prevalence of Disease. Although the general health in the District was good there was more than the average amount of Measles, Whooping Cough and Scarlet Fever in the early part of the year. Measles, of which there were 151 cases reported, was mainly in the eastern part of the District and was a legacy from the previous year. There were 26 cases of Scarlet Fever, mostly in the coastal area; this figure compares with 13 in the previous year. The cases were almost all of a very mild type to such an extent that in several cases the diagnosis was in some doubt.

The following table shows the incidence of notifiable diseases amongst civilians:-

Disease.	No. of cases.	No. of Deaths.
Smallpox.	0	0
Scarlet Fever.	26	0
Diphtheria.	1	0
Typhoid Fever.	0	0
Paratyphoid Fever.	0	0
Erysipelas.	5	0
Puerperal Fever & Pyrexia.	2	0
Measles.	151	0
Whooping Cough.	137	0
Cerebrospinal Meningitis.	0	0
Infantile Paralysis.	2	1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary).	21	9
(Non-Pulmonary).	2	2

There were no cases of food poisoning.

Sanitary conditions of the area.

Water supplies. Regular tests of the water as supplied by the Coastal and Fen Water schemes show that the quality continues to be excellent. The coast supply is at present quite adequate for the needs of that area, but the increasing volume of water that is and will more and more be required for the fen district is a matter that is of some concern to the Council. It is most important that the proposed new supply from the Driby bore be put into use as soon as possible. I append at the end of this report the Water Engineer's report on this matter and on the extensions to existing schemes that have taken place during the year.

Milk. A survey of the number of registered cowsheds in the District gives a total of 545. The district is mainly arable and generally speaking the milk is obtained from small farms.

The Spilsby district is fortunate in so far that there are two large firms - one at Willoughby and one at Skegness - which collect the milk from the farms and pasteurise it, thus very much reducing the risk of trouble from drinking infected milk. It is estimated that 70% of the raw milk in our district is now heat-treated; this figure though a great improvement on former days still leaves room for much further improvement. All milk not taken from tuberculin-tested herds should be heat-treated, and no one suffering from tuberculosis or other disease should be allowed to handle the herds or the milk. Some schools still provide children with raw, untreated milk and this should be remedied as soon as possible. It is a tragic fact that each year in England and Wales just under 2,000 people die of bovine tuberculosis. This takes no account of morbidity - the number of persons who need treatment must amount to several thousands - nor of the waste of time, money and hospital facilities that the treatment of this large number involves. These deaths and this suffering and waste are preventable. The infection is caused by drinking milk drawn from the udder of a cow which is suffering from tuberculosis. It is estimated that 40% of the cattle in this country are infected with tuberculosis, and Great Britain is at the bottom of the list for Western Europe, whilst in the U.S.A. and Canada the figures are .5% and 2% respectively. It should surely be possible to improve on our own deplorable figure.

There were two deaths from bovine tuberculosis in this district in 1948.

At the end of the year there were 8 tuberculin-tested herds, being an increase of 2 over 1947.

Thirty applications were received in respect of proposed wholesale milk producers and the premises were accordingly registered after inspections had been carried out and reports submitted to the Public Health and Housing Committee.

Of the samples of milk taken and analysed one was found to be unsatisfactory as regards cleanliness. An inspection was carried out and direction and advice given.

There are now 13 accredited milk producers holding licences, a decrease of one since 1947.

Housing.

It will be seen from the appended statistics that every effort has been made to improve the housing conditions by the provision of new houses, and also by assisting owners of properties to obtain the essential building licences and materials to make the houses more habitable.

One hundred and two houses were erected by the Council, consisting of 60 prefabricated, 34 permanent and 8 Swedish houses.

It is anticipated that there will be a more material advance in the erection of traditional brick houses if the programme envisaged by the Council for 1949 is carried through, in which case many families will have the benefit of a decent house with all its amenities.

In addition to the houses built by the Council, thirty two houses were built by private enterprise.

As the poorer type of house becomes vacant the owner is contacted and every opportunity is given to him to improve the cottage rather than it should be demolished. In almost every case the owner is willing and the cottage is improved, though by the addition of another room on the ground floor with a bedroom above it many of these cottages could be improved considerably and would be more useful for the rural worker's family. Such improvement will take place when the owner is able to receive a grant. In the interests of agriculture alone the amount of grant expended would more than justify the expenditure in addition to the improved housing accommodation.

If we consider the provisional figures of the Housing Survey, as appear below, it is evident that many years will elapse before we reach the housing conditions that we want, but the Council is very much alive to its responsibilities and is endeavouring to erect as many houses as possible in addition to the improvement of those already existing.

Provisional result of Housing Survey and classification of houses:-

Category.		Number of Houses.
1.	Fit for occupation.	229.
2.	Minor repairs only required.	1,450.
3.	Defective and requiring repairs.	1,765.
4.	Needing reconstruction.	2,065.
5.	Provisionally scheduled for demolition.	980.
		6,489.

The following indicates the housing programme and progress made, and for that purpose relative figures are given to compare with the position at 31st December, 1947.

	31st December, 1948.	31st December, 1947.
Proposals.	116	34
Started.	116	24
Damp Proof Course.	108	24
Eaves level.	106	22
Roofed.	92	18
Plastered.	64	18
Finished.	34	12

Camping Sites and Moveable Dwellings.

My annual report for 1947 referred to the general weakness of the Public Health Act, 1936, and the insufficient powers to enable the Council to control the land and moveable dwellings. Under Town Planning some additional powers have been obtained, but there are still many difficulties.

Year by year the tendency is, in the coastal areas, for the camping grounds to increase in numbers and size and indeed a well run camp by the sea, with proper moveable dwellings does provide an excellent outdoor holiday and one which should not be too expensive. Many of these camps are quite satisfactory and their owners very co-operative, but others are not well run and their owners would allow people to continue to reside in the caravans after the end of September.

Too many of these so-called moveable dwellings are not now moveable at all. Additional structures have been added to them which are firmly resting on the ground and are a temptation to many families to reside in them during the winter. Other structures are just a blot on the landscape.

If we are to preserve the amenities of this coast such powers as we have must be rigidly enforced and, where necessary, proceedings taken against offending owners.

Squatters.

The Council's policy of rendering uninhabitable all huts that have been invaded by squatters, as the huts become vacant, and as far as possible re-housing families in sites prepared at the hutments at the Great Steeping and East Kirkby Aerodromes, has done a great deal to diminish this difficult problem. The Gibralter Point focus has been quite cleaned up; there are only two families left at Orby, while Jackson's Corner squatters at Ingoldmells are reduced by almost half and the other smaller foci in proportion. As more and more houses are built these unfortunate people will all get satisfactorily housed.

Sewerage and Conversions.

Every year one sees the urgency of the need for modern sewage disposal works for many areas, those in particular need being Hogsthorpe and the coastal parishes of Anderby, Chapel St. Leonards and Ingoldmells. With the advent of the coastal water scheme the owners proceeded to have a piped water supply to their houses and also water closets, all of which discharge into cesspools. During the summer the holiday resorts receive a large number of visitors and all the properties are dependent upon cesspools, many of the older ones being inadequate in size. As a result we are bound to refuse persons desirous of installing water closets, and for many years none has been installed in any of the cottages, except a few where there has been sufficient land to construct a cesspool in accordance with building byelaw approval.

The sanitary arrangements in the parish of Hogsthorpe are most primitive and highly unsatisfactory. This fact is well known to the Council and every effort is being made to expedite the provision of a permanent modern sewerage system there.

At Spilsby, Hundleby, Wainfleet all Saints and Burgh, where there are sewage disposal works the total conversion of the pail closets and privy middens to the water carriage system is the aim of the Council, and a contribution towards the expense is given. The total sum contributed in this way in 1948 was £121, in respect of 12 conversions. It will be a much bigger sum for 1949.

The following is the percentage of houses now with W.C's.

Parish.	Percentage
Spilsby.	89%
Hundleby.	75%
Burgh-le-Marsh.	64%
Wainfleet All Saints.	76%

Sanitary Accommodation at Public Houses.

A thorough survey into the sanitary conditions was completed at all public houses, a total of 97.

In 45 public houses it was found that there was not a separate sanitary convenience for the tenant, men and women customers.

In all cases the owner of the public house or his representative was met at the site in order to achieve an amicable and early arrangement for the necessary alterations and improvements. As a result of consultations much good work has been done.

Notices were served where necessary for additional sanitary conveniences to be provided; the provision of proper drainage system for the treatment and disposal of liquid from the urinal and water closets; and for the conversion of pail closets to water closets in certain cases.

The position at the end of the year was as follows:-

Public Houses.

Notices complied with.	3
Near corpletion.	4
Instructions given to builder.	26
Plans in course of preparation ready for works to start.	13
Difficulty in obtaining a builder.	12
	58

Scavenging Services.

Direct labour schemes were inaugurated on the 1st April, 1948, in the parishes of Spilsby, Hundleby and Sibsey. At Hundleby and Sibsey there had previously been no collection of dry refuse and the scheme was operated with a fortnightly collection of dry refuse.

Spilsby had previously had refuse collection by a private contract, but it was considered essential, after reports had been presented to the Committee, that the Council adopt a scheme on the 1st April whereby the work could be commenced with the help of the coastal refuse vehicles and labour, pending the purchase of additional refuse vehicles and labour for work at other parishes.

On the 1st October, the scavenging services at Wainfleet All Saints were operated by Council's refuse vehicles and men, instead of by the private contractor.

The transfer from work carried out by private contractor to direct labour by the Council is a step in the right direction, and it is hoped that next year the parishes of Burgh-le-Marsh and Hogsthorpe will also be included in the Council's scheme, instead of being carried out by the private contractor.

With the advent of the purchase of refuse and cesspool vehicles by the Council there is no reason why other parishes should not be included and the present schemes enlarged.

The parishes of Stickford, Stickney, Wainfleet St. Mary and New Bolingbroke should be given consideration, particularly as certain land suitable for controlled tipping is available to the Council at New Bolingbroke, which will serve the parishes of Sibsey, Stickney, Stickford and New Bolingbroke.

The cesspool vehicle has proved a boon to the owners of houses in the coastal parishes, and 170 cesspools were emptied and cleansed with the aid of the vehicle.

Meat and other foods.

Particular attention has been given to premises where persons are engaged in the handling of food.

At Butlin's Holiday Camp, Ingoldmells, where there is an average of seven thousand persons to be fed weekly during the holiday season, periodical inspections of the kitchens take place and contact is made with chefs and those working under them. Every facility is given by those responsible for the good running of the camp and they are eager to co-operate and receive any advice.

At the milk factory at Willoughby where milk is received from 315 farms in our district, we are able to record excellent co-operation in our attempt to see that the employees understand the necessity for cleanliness of the hands, as also we find at the smaller premises where food is prepared. Only one case of serious neglect in respect of cleanliness was found at a bakehouse and a strong warning was necessary.

Slaughtering of animals for food in the rural district takes place at two centres, Skegness and Horncastle.

There are the usual inspections of shops, etc. where food is prepared, deposited or exposed for sale, in addition to the usual weekly inspection on Market days at the stalls.

The following foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption, during the year.

Beef.	42 lbs.	Sardines.	3 tins.
Mutton.	18 lbs.	Tomatoes.	11 tins.
Bacon.	72 lbs.	Fruit.	9 tins.
Ham.	36 lbs.	Spinach.	2 tins.
Smoked Haddock.	62 stones.	Chopped Meat.	2 tins.
Fish (tinned)	35 tins.	Mixed Vegetable.	2 tins.
Carrotts (tinned)	4 tins.	Marmalade.	2 tins.
Spaghetti.	1 tin.	Fruit Juice.	2 tins.
Meat Soup.	6 tins.	Pancake Mixture.	12 packets.
Milk (evaporated)	25 tins.	Backed Pudding.	19 packets.
Peas (tinned).	7 tins.	Meat Paste.	1 tin.

Rodent Control.

The following tables indicate the work of inspection and destruction carried out by the Council's whole-time Rodent Operator, Mr. H. Wright, during the year ended 31st December, 1948.

	Areas Treated.	Estimated Kill	Bodies Found.
Major infestation.	33.	1,783.	158.
Minor infestation.	48.	1,395.	60.

Numbers of Treatments and Types of Premises.

Type of Premises	Location	Number treated.	No. of visits made.
Sewage Farms	Spilsby.		2.
	Burgh.		1.
Sewers.	Spilsby.		1.
	Wainfleet.		1.
	Burgh.		1.
Tips.	Spilsby.		1.
	Burgh.		2.
	Wainfleet.		1.
	Hogsthorpe.		2.
Dwelling Houses.		24.	
Business Premises.		27.	
Farms.		32.	
Camping Grounds.		2.	
Schools.	Wainfleet St.Mary.	1	
	Thorpe St. Peter.	1	
	Sibsey.	1	
Poultry Farms.		4.	
Other Farms.	Stickney.		
	Partney.		
	Willoughby.		
Institutions.	The Gables, Hundleby.	1	
Sewers and Drains.	New Bolingbroke.	2.	
	Wainfleet River Board.	1.	

Bad infestations existed at these farms, and they were visited in company with the Agricultural Committee's Pests Officer.

Surveys have been carried out in the following parishes:-

Thorpe, Burgh, Hogsthorpe, Chapel St. Leonards, West Keal, Bilsby, Carrington, Frithville, East Kirkby, Friskney, Spilsby, Sibsey, Well Vale, Firsby, Wainfleet, Ingoldmells, Stickney, Stickford, Croft, Langrick, Langriville, Welton, Sloothby, Partney, Halton, Huttoft, Anderby, Great Steeping, New Bolingbroke and Old Bolingbroke.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

C.S.L. Wright

M.B., B.C., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department

Spilsby Rural District

Report of work done by Sanitary Inspector for the year 1948

Total number of new houses erected during the year.		
(I) By the Local Authority	102	(34 perm. (60 pref.
(II) By other Local Authorities .. ,, ..	-	(8 Swed.
(III) By other bodies or persons	32	

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1387
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1634
(2) (a) No. of dwelling-houses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	835
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose	862
(3) No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	2
(4) No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	833

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices:-

No. of Defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.	604

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9,10 and 36 of the Housing Act, 1936:-	
(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
(a) by owners	-
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners . ..	-
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-	
(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	24
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
(a) by owners	-
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners . ..	-
(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-	
(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	2
(2) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	[illegible]
(3) No. of dwelling-houses subject to undertakings ..	-
(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-	
(1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	-
(2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	-

4. Housing Act, 1936.- Part IV.- Overcrowding.

(a) (I) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	---
(II) Number of families dwelling therein	---
(III) Number of persons dwelling therein	---

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year		---
(c) (I) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year		12
(II) Number of persons concerned in such cases.	..	67
(d) Number of houses again overcrowded after being previously relieved		-

Moveable Dwellings, Tents, Vans, etc.	No. inspected during year	..	..	920
	No. of nuisances therefrom abated	..	..	73
	No. removed from district	..	..	2
Bakehouses	No. in district ..	..	..	40
	No. of underground bakehouses	..	..	-
	No. of Inspections ..	..	..	112
	Contraventions of Factory Acts	..	..	-
	Defects remedied ..	..	..	2
Slaughter-houses.	No. on register ..	..	..	30
	No. of Inspections ..	..	..	6
	Contraventions of by-laws	..	..	-
	Defects remedied ..	..	..	-
Cowsheds	No. on register ..	..	..	545
	No. of Inspections ..	..	..	419
	Contraventions of regulations	..	..	31
	Contraventions remedied ..	..	..	26
	No. of milch cows in district	..	..	---
Dairies and Milk Shops	No. on register. ..	..	..	73
	No. of Inspections ..	..	..	158
	Contraventions of regulations	..	..	-
	Contraventions remedied ..	..	..	-
	Any instance of disease attributed to milk during year			-

Unsound Food.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle, excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)					
Number inspected					
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcases condemned					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.					
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than t.b.					
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcases condemned					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned					
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.					

NO SLAUGHTERING

Offensive Trades	No. of premises in district	..	..	1
	No. of Inspections ..	..	..	4
	Contraventions of by-laws	..	..	-
	Contraventions remedied .	..	..	-

Wells	New sunk	-
	Cleansed, repaired	2
	Closed as polluted	-
Public Supply	Area supplied	
	Percentage of houses supplied ..	
	New Cisterns provided	
	Cisterns cleansed, repaired, covered, etc.	
Water Supply	Number of samples obtained for analysis	
	(a) from wells and rivers	28
	(b) from public supply	7
	Any insufficiency and where	

Area Supplied - Parishes supplied by water mains other than mains belonging to Spilsby Rural District Council.- Part of Croft, Spilsby, Raithby, Hundleby, Burgh, Orby, Welton, Gunby, Candlesby, Bilsby, Well, Markby, Sibsey, Langton, Frithville, Carrington, part of West Fen, Old Bolingbroke and Mavis Enderby.

Parishes supplied by Spilsby Rural District Council Water Mains.- Toynton St. Peter, Halton Holgate, Little Steeping, Thorpe St. Peter, East Keal, Stickford, Stickney, New Leake, Eastville, Midville, Friskney, Wainfleet All Saints, Wainfleet St. Mary, Toynton All Saints and part of West Fen.

Percentage of houses supplied - Burgh 50%, Orby 27%, Gunby 21%, Welton 45%, Croft 38%, and Candlesby 30%.

Closets.	No. of houses with privy vaults in district ..	2408
	No. of houses with pail closets in district ..	3330
	No. of pail closets substituted for privy vaults	8
	No. of pail closets repaired	
	No. of water-closets substituted for dry receptacles	63
	No. of houses with water-closets in district ..	1607
	No. of water-closets repaired	
Drains	Drains examined, tested, exposed, etc. ..	187
	Drains unstopped, repaired, trapped, etc. ..	8
	Waste pipes, rain water pipes disconnected, repaired, etc.	-
	New soil pipes or ventilating shafts fixed ..	-
	Existing soil pipes or ventilating shafts repaired	
	Drains reconstructed	42
Sewers	New lengths of sewer laid	5
Tanks, Filter Beds, etc.	Alterations to sewage disposal works . ..	-
	Any inadequacy of sewage disposal works or complaints as to smells	
Cesspools	Cesspools rendered impervious	-
	Cesspools emptied, cleansed, etc.	170
	Cesspools abolished	-
Disinfection	Rooms disinfected	
	(a) ordinary infectious disease	18
	(b) tuberculosis	3
	Rooms stripped and cleansed	-
	Articles disinfected or destroyed	
	(a) ordinary infectious disease	
	(b) tuberculosis	-
House Refuse	No. of covered ashpits	
	No. of uncovered ashpits	
	No. of bins substituted for ashpits	7
	No. of houses using bins	
	ø Is refuse removed by householders or by public scavenger?	ø
	How frequently is refuse removed from each house,	weekly.
	No. of complaints of non-removal	25
	Method of final disposal	controlled tipping.
	Are existing arrangements for refuse removal satisfactory?	- yes,
	ø Public scavenging services are carried out at Spilsby, Wainfleet All Saints, Burgh, Chapel St. Leonards, Hogsthorpe, Ingoldmells & Anderby	where under Council's cont

Nuisances	Total number of Nuisances during year:-	
	(1) Abated as result of informal action by Sanitary Inspector.	315
	(2) Reported to Council (Statutory notice issued ..	24
	(Statutory notice not issued	-

Details of Nuisances Abated.	After Informal Intimation.	After Statutory Notice
Overcrowding ..	12	-
Smoke		-
Accumulation of refuse	28	-
Foul ditches, ponds and stagnant water	8	-
Foul pigs and other animals	2	-
Dampness		-
Earth closets and privy middens	39	-
Yards repaved or repaired		-
Ashbins provided at houses	104	-
Cesspools and drainage	106	-
Other nuisances	16	-
	315	

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises. (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of Inspections (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	M/c line No. (7)
(i) Factories in which Sects.1, 2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	55	87		-	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sect.7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	2	80	91		-	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	-	-		-	3
Total.		135	178		-	

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars. (1)	M/c line No. (2)	No. of cases in which defects were found: Found (3)	Remedied. (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (6)	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	2	2				4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5						5
Unreasonable temperature	6						6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7						7
Ineffective drainage of floors	8						8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)							
(a) insufficient	9	4	4		4		9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10						10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11						11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	12	1	1				12

Part VIII of the Act. Outwork. (Sections 110 and 111) - N I L

L.W. Williams A.M.Inst.B.E., M.S.E.,
Waterworks Engineer.

Waterworks Department,
Council Offices,
Spilsby,
Lincs.

To the Chairman and Members,
Waterworks Committee,
Spilsby R.D.C.

30th June, 1949.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I beg to submit herein my Annual Report in connection with your water supply undertaking, and I trust that the information contained herein will prove to be of interest.

FEN AREA WATER SCHEME.

Consumers.

At the 31st March, 1949, the total number of supplies being afforded from the mains of the Fen Area was 2,553. These were comprised of:-

Domestic Supplies.	1,692.
Metered "	416.
Field "	307.
Standpipe "	64.
Special Purposes.	74.
	2,553.

During the year, the following applications for supplies were dealt with and connections duly afforded.

Domestic Supplies.	169.
Metered "	81.
Field "	53.
Standpipe "	16.
Special Purposes.	12.
	331.

This represents an increase in the number of applications received over last year of 226.

Length of Mains.

The total length of mains of 2" diameter and above in operation at the close of the year was 86.6 miles. During the year, extensions have been carried out involving the laying of 17,886 yards of additional mains.

Consumption.

The total volume of water passed through the Braygate Lane Venturi meter was 54,555,000 gallons, and of this, 5,085,000 gallons were purchased from the North East Lincs Water Company. It is estimated that the population now being supplied is 6,768 and the consumption per head per day for all purposes is thus 22.084 gallons.

There were 416 metered supplies in operation, and the volume of water supplied by meter amounted to 15,800,769 gallons, which is equal to 37,982 gallons per meter for the year.

Fon Area Water Scheme.

Consumption.

Deducting the metered consumption from the total we find that 38,754,231 gallons were supplied for domestic and other purposes. This is equal to 15.687 gallons per head per day.

Rainfall and Yield. Twentylands.

The average rainfall at Twentylands over the last four years has been 24.212 inches. During the year ended 31st March, the total rainfall was 25.855 inches above average. The wettest month was August with 4.32 inches and the dryest March, .53 inches.

The average yield of the sourceworks over the year has been 141,014 gallons per day, which is equal to 5,875.5 gallons per hour.

Cost per Thousand Gallons.

The cost of the water at Twentylands Reservoir after allowing for repayment of loans, purchase of water in bulk (North East Lines Water Company), repairs, maintenance &c., works out at an average of 2.67 pence per one thousand gallons. After allowing for the above contingencies, but disregarding the volume supplied in bulk and the cost thereof, the cost of water yielded by the sourceworks is 1.997 pence per one thousand gallons.

Administration charges were estimated to cost £1,548 which is equal to 6.81 pence per one thousand gallons. Distribution charges were £1,098 which is equal to 4.83 pence per one thousand gallons. Loan charges on the undertaking amounted to £2,166 which is equal to 9.53 pence per one thousand gallons.

Therefore, based on the Chief Financial Officer's revised estimate for the year 1948/49, water supplied onto the district works out at an average of 1/9.17d (One Shilling, Ninepence,.17 Pence) per one thousand gallons.

Water Purchased in Bulk.

3,085,000 gallons of water were purchased from the North East Lines Water Company during the year under review at a cost of £179 - 19 - 2d. or 1/2d per one thousand gallons.

The volume supplied shows that there is a deficiency of some 8,500 gallons per day from the Twentylands sourceworks.

COASTAL AREA WATER SCHEME.

Consumers.

At the 31st March, 1949, the total number of supplies being afforded from the mains of the Coastal Area was 912. these were comprised of:-

Domestic Supplies.	653.
Metered "	161.
Field "	47.
Standpipe "	16
Special Purposes.	35.
	912.

Coastal Area Water Scheme.

Consumers.

During the year the following applications for supplies were dealt with and connections duly afforded.

Domestic Supplies.	88.
Metered "	28.
Field "	8.
Standpipe "	11.
Special Purposes.	5.
	140.

This represents a decrease in the number of applications received over last year of 89.

Length of Mains.

The total length of mains of 2" diameter and above in operation at the close of the year was 30.6 miles.

GENERAL REPORT.

It will be appreciated that the Fen Area Water Scheme has been extended far beyond the point for which it was originally intended, and whilst an adequate supply is being afforded throughout the area, the time is not far distant, when consideration will have to be given to several matters of importance, if the efficiency of the scheme is to be maintained.

Storage Capacity.

The storage capacity of Twentylands reservoi is 150,000 gallons and the average daily consumption is 149,000 gallons. It will thus be seen that the present storage is barel sufficient to maintain one day's actual consumption. Steps have been taken to cater for additional storage by the erection of the Water Tower at Toynton All Saints which has a capacity of 20,000 gallons, and proposals are now in hand for the erection of a further storage tank of a similar capacity at Mardon Hill. I am inclinc to regard these as being storage for the districts which they will eventually serve, namely, Toynton All Saints, East and West Keal and East Kirkby, and, whilst it is not anticipated that the daily consumption of the areas will equal the capacity of the tanks for sc time to come, it would be wise policy in my opinion, to regard the additional or balance of storage over consumption, to be reserve for future developement of those areas.

You will be aware that the Ministry have recently approved the laying of some 29 miles of additional mains in the area and that among these is a proposal to afford a supply to East Kirkby. During the war, the Air Ministry erected a storage tank at Sall Holt near Miningsby, the bottom water level of which is approximately 180 feet O.D., and a water supply into such tank was afforded from the mians of the Boston Corporation which pass nearby. The Air Ministry also laid a 6" diameter main through the village from the tank, for the purpose of conveying a water supply to East Kirkby Airodrome. In my opinion, the Council would be well advis at this stage to approach the Air Ministry with a view to the acquisition of these works. Assuming that the negotiations are successful, the acquisition would immediately increase the storage capacity by 80,000 gallons (the capacity of the tank) and at

General Report.

Storage Capacity.

the same time, the Fen Scheme would become interconnected with the mains of the Boston Corporation, with whom it would be possible to negotiate for the provision of a bulk supply in cases of emergency. Similarly, in my opinion, the Council should negotiate with the Air Ministry for the aquisition of the storage tanks at Steeping Airodrome, with a view to providing additional storage in connection with the proposals (now approved) to afford a supply to the parishes of Firsby, Bratoft, Croft and Thorpe St. Peter. The capacity of the tanks at Steeping Airodrome is approximately 155,000 gallons.

I shall shortly be making a recommendation to you with regards to making an interconnection with the mains of the Skegness U.D.C. through Hall Lane at Burgh and, provided that the improvements now suggested are adopted, the supply to the Fen Area would be safeguarded for some years to come. It should be borne in mind however, that the suggestions are based on the assumption that our negotiations for the purchase of the North East Lincs Water Company will ultimately be successful.

If the suggestions made herein are eventually adopted as being future policy, the position so far as storage and supply, would be as follows:-

Twentylands Reservoir.	150,000	gallon
Raithby Reservoir.	75,000	"
East Kirkby Storage Tank.	80,000	"
Great Steeping Storage Tanks (2).	155,000	"
Toynton All Saints.	20,000	"
Mardon Hill.	20,000	"
	500,000	gallon

It is estimated that the scheme will eventually supply a population of some 10,000 and based upon allowing 40 gallon per head per day the consumption will ultimately be 400,000 gallons daily. The present sources of supply, Twentylands and the North East Lincs Water Company, are capable of yielding approximately 264,000 gallons per 24 hours. The deficiency of 136,000 gallons per day will eventually, it is anticipated, be taken from the proposed Wolds Scheme, but I suggest that the interconnections with the mains of the Boston Corporation and the Skegness U.D.C., at the places previously mentioned in this report, would be an additional safeguard, worthy of your future consideration.

Materials. Stores.

Considerable difficulty is experienced in the matter of storage of materials required for normal stock purposes and, under present conditions, it is impossible to maintain anything like an efficient system of keeping a check on such materials. Normally, the department carries a stock of materials valued in the region of £2,000 and whilst the major portion of this is comprised of Asbestos Cement Pipes, which are stored in the grounds of Twentylands Reservoir and Mumby Pumping Station, the question of storing essential cast and galvanised iron fittings presents something of a problem. In view of the possibility of the Ministry of Health approving a considerable proportion of Capital Works in the near future, the position in relation to the storage of materials will tend to worsen, and I now propose, subject to your approval, to introduce a system whereby all materials and other stores required in connection with the undertaking will, in future, be received by and issued through one central store, and again, subject to your approval, I propose to put Mr. Radford in charge of such store, the post to which he was originally appointed.

General Report.

Materials. Stores.

Mr. Radford is already responsible for costing and preparing account for submission to the Finance Department and if the suggestion now submitted is adopted, it should, in due course, greatly facilitate matters on this side of the undertaking.

Transport. Plumbing Inspections.

The question of transport for both men and materials is one that presents a major difficulty, in view of the distances to be travelled in the area now being supplied. The inspection of plumbers' work alone involves the Inspector in journeys over considerable distances, both in the Fen and Coastal Areas and this, coupled with the fact that the same means of transpo has also to be used for conveying the Council's own workmen, tools and materials to the various jobs carried out by the department, requires careful planning if transport is to be carried out at an economical figure.

During the past year the Ford Van travelled 15,326 miles at a cost of £216 which is equal to 3.82 pence per mile, and whilst I am aware that a new vehicle has been ordered, I would like to emphasise that every effort should be made to expedite delivery at the earliest possible date.

Meter Supplies.

There is now a total of 577 meters fixed in the area and it is customary to take readings of metered supplies quarterly but, owing to the volume of works and the lack of transport it has been found necessary to cut the reading periods down to once in six months. I cannot say that I am in favour of six monthly readings in view of the fact that in cases where a meter fails, it becomes necessary to estimate the consumption over the previous six months, a practice that is not altogether acceptable, either to the consumer or the supplying Authority. Visualising the further extensions of the supply to other areas, and the possibility of the acquisition of the North East Lincs Water Undertaking, it will be necessary for me to make a recommendation to you in the very near future, that will enable us to again make quarterly meter reading possible.

Conclusion.

May I take this opportunity of thanking you Mr. Chairman, and the Members of your Committee, for the many kind considerations and the invaluable assistance that has been extended to the Department at all times,

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant

L.W. WILLIAMS

Waterworks Engineer.